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Signed: Angela Suber  
Angela Suber

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	)	Examiner: Not yet assigned
Lang	)	
Serial Number: Not yet assigned	)	
International Application No.:	)	Art Unit: Not yet assigned
PCT/IB99/01818	)	
Filed: Concurrently herewith	)	
International Application Filed:	)	
November 11, 1999	)	
For: <b>Detecting the Expression of the DESC1</b>	)	Attorney Docket No.: 2727/04050A
<b>Gene in Squamous Cell Carcinoma</b>	)	
Box PCT		
Assistant Commissioner for Patents		
Washington, D.C. 20231		
Attn: DO/US		

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before "Background of the Invention" insert ---

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

Q This application is a continuation of copending International Application PCT/IB99/01818, filed on November 11, 1999 and which designated the U.S. The non-provisional application designated above, namely International Application PCT/IB99/01818,